

Church of the Holy Cross

All Saints' Day



Semon on the Mount

November 1, 2026

8 a.m.

Holy Communion

40700 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375

248-427-1175

holycrossnovi@gmail.com

www.holycrossnovi.org

Gathering of the People

Prelude

Opening Hymn MHSO 118 11 *We sing of the saints*

Verse 2 printed below.



1 We sing of the saints filled with Spir - it and grace, blest
2 (Optional verse for saint's day)
3 We, too, have been cho - sen to fol - low the way of
wom - en and men through all time, from each place. God
good - ness and truth in our stud - y and play, we
chose them, the ho - ly, the hum - ble, the wise to
raise up our song, liv - ing saints here be - low, with
spread the Good News of sal - va - tion in Christ.
heav - en - ly saints, as our praise ev - er flows.

Verse 2:

There are many saints whom we don't know by name,
for God works through people who never find fame;
but, gathered together, they now sing God's might,
with martyrs and prophets, in heavenly light.

Words: Alan J. Hommerding (b. 1956).
Music: *Zie Ginds komt de Stoomboot*, Traditional Dutch Melody, acc. Karl A. Pölm-Faudré.
Words and Music © 1994 World Library Publications, Inc., 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158 [www.wlpmusic.com].
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Call to Worship (A Celtic Primer, pg. 241)

Celebrant Blessed be God the Holy Trinity.
People **And blessed be God's realm, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Let us pray.
People **O God, you have called your people to your service from age to age.
Do not give us over to death, but raise us up
To serve you, to praise you, and to glorify your holy Name;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise H 554 'Tis the gift to be simple



'Tis the gift to be sim - ple, 'tis the gift to be free,

'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find our - selves in the place just right,
'twill be in the val - ley of love and de - light.
When true sim - pli - ci - ty is gained to
bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to turn, turn, will
be our de-light till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

Words: Shaker song, 18th cent. Music: *Simple Gifts*, Joseph Brackett (1797-1822); acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922).

Prayer of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

First Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

Reader A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 34:1-10,22

The reader leads off, and congregation responds with the bold verses.

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
2 **I will glory in the Lord; ***
let the humble hear and rejoice.
3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.
4 **I sought the Lord, and he answered me ***
and delivered me out of all my terror.
5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
6 **I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me ***
and saved me from all my troubles.
7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
8 **Taste and see that the Lord is good; ***
happy are they who trust in him!
9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.
10 **The young lions lack and suffer hunger, ***
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

Reader A Reading from the first Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn MHSO 81 Your word

Sing 1x before the Gospel; 1x after the Gospel.

Echo on repeat

Your word, (your word,) your word (your word,) is a
 lamp to my feet. Your word, (your word,) your
 word (your word,) is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my
 path. (and a light to my path.) Your word, (your word,) your
 word (your word,) is a lamp to my feet.

Words: Psalm 119:105.

Music: Frank Hernandez © 1990, Birdwing Music (ASCAP) (admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing, PO Box 5085, Brentwood, TN 37024-5085). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan Sams

Litany of the Saints

Names of the dead will be read. The congregation is invited to light a candle for a deceased loved one at this time or when taking communion.

Renewal of the Baptismal Vows

Celebrant Let us who have committed ourselves to Christ renew our baptismal vows.
Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Celebrant We praise you, O lover of souls, for your servants in every age, faithful as they were able to be, beloved as they were and are.

Let us pray:

People **Creator of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant May the peace of God be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

God's Peace is exchanged with one another.

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

LEVAS 141

Shall we gather at the river

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, Where bright an-gel feet have trod;____
2. On the mar-gin of the riv-er, Wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,____
3. Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, Lay we ev-'ry bur-den down;____
4. Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er, Soon our pil-grim-age will cease,____

1. With its crys-tal tide for-ev-er Flow-ing by the throne of God?
2. We will walk and wor-ship ev-er, All the hap-py gold-en day.
3. Grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, And pro-vide a robe and crown.
4. Soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er With the mel-o-dy of peace.

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful_ riv - er;

Gath - er with the saints_ at the riv - er That flows by the throne of_ God.

Words: Robert Lowry (1826-1899). Music: Robert Lowry.

Communion Prayer (BCP, Prayer C)

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God Renewing God, you called forth the cosmos in all its immensity, and in time your Spirit hovered over the face of the earth and breathed the breath of life into us mortals, formed of the dust in your image. Through the voices of prophets and pioneers, judges and rulers, sages and poets, you have summoned us to be a holy people, a royal priesthood, but time and time again we have broken your heart and wandered away from your love. **Bless and sanctify your people in faith.**

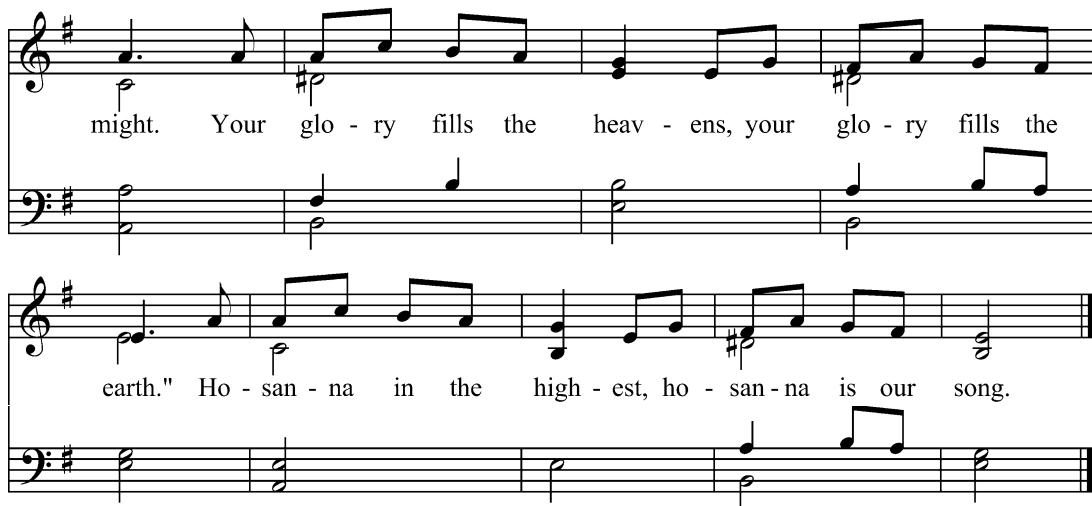
In Jesus the Anointed One you made yourself fully known to us. In the power of the Holy Spirit you formed us into your church, never closer to you than when we gather at this table of blessing. **Bless and sanctify your people in joy.**

And therefore, we praise you, joining our voices in praise with angels and archangels, matriarchs and patriarchs and the whole company of heaven, in endless songs of praise:

Sanctus MHSO 26 Holy, holy, holy

"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," an - gel hosts are sing - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly is the Lord our God. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God, the Lord of



Words: based on *Isaiah 6:3*, English paraphrase Bert Polman, 1985.
Music: *Merengue*, Spanish; harm. AnnaMae Meyer Bush, 1985 © 1987 CRC Publications, 2850 Kalamazoo Avenue Southeast,
Grand Rapids, MI 49560 [www.crcpublications.org].
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Hosanna is our cry, Transforming God, for in Jesus you show us how to continue the good work of those holy people who have gone before, transforming struggle into strength, rejection into rejoicing and persecution into praise.

Bless and sanctify your people in hope.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us now, that we may become holy, even as you are holy. Sanctify this bread and wine that they may become the body and blood of your blessed Son our Lord transforming our hearts and minds and souls and voices.

On the night before he died, at supper with his disciples, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them saying "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying "Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

God our deliverer, embolden your church in this sacred meal to be a voice for the voiceless and a hope for the hopeless, that with the countless women and men who have pioneered and persisted we may serve humbly in your name. Renew your people through loving service and prophetic witness; that your name may be made known in the face of injustice, poverty and tyranny. Show your glory through agents of healing and learning, and shower your people with your love, until the day comes when every nation gathers on your holy mountain to study war no more.

Bless and sanctify your people in love.

All this we ask in your most sacred name, through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours Almighty God, now and for ever.
AMEN!

Lord's Prayer ((c) 2007, Benedictine Women of Madison, Holy Wisdom Monastery, Madison, Wisconsin)

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Holy One, our only Home, blessed be your name,
may your day dawn, your will be done, here as in heaven.
Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other.
Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil.
For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant takes and breaks the bread.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Gifts for Holy People.

The Communion of the People

No one who comes to the bread and wine seeking Christ is turned away. The words of distribution are:

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. Amen.

The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. Amen.

Communion Music *Instrumental*

Announcements & Celebration of Life Events

Post Communion Prayer *(BCP)*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **O God, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen,
And the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed,
And the fever of life is over, and our work is done.
Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest,
And peace at the last. Amen.**

Blessing

Celebrant Life is short, and we do not have much time
To gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.
So be swift to love, make haste to be kind,
And as you go, may the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be upon you
And remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn V. 1 & 2 only

Soon and very soon

1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King;

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
 4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

_____ Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, _____ we're goin' to see the King!

1.2. 3.4.
 _____ Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -

jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

Going into the World

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

*This brings the worship to a close.
All are invited for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.*

Ministers of Today's Service

1st Reading & Psalm: Bruce Hinkle
2nd Reading & Prayers: Rebecca McCormick
Greeter/Usher: Zean Smartt
Zoom Host: Bekah Schulze
Altar Guild: Carole Abshier
–

Clergy

Bishop of Michigan: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry
Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Cleda Smartt

Staff

Administrator: Teri Landreth
Music Director: Kate Autry
Sexton: Katie Forbing

Music printed Copyright ©2026 Church
Publishing Incorporated All rights reserved.

Cover Art **Copyright Permission** The artist has granted permission for the non-commercial use of this image with attribution. The artist must be contacted for other uses. **Attribution** James, Laura. Sermon on the Mount, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57891> [retrieved October 27, 2026]. Original source: Laura James, <https://www.laurajamesart.com/collections/religious/>.